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[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2018/L.16)*]

2018/13. United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2013/12 of 22 July 2013, 2014/10 of 13 June 2014, 2015/8 of 9 June 2015, 2016/5 of 2 June 2016 and 2017/8 of 7 June 2017 on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,

Recalling also the commitments included in the 2011 political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases[1] and the 2014 outcome document of the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases[2] and looking forward to the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, and recalling further the proposed actions set out in the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020,[3]

Welcoming the convening of the World Health Organization Global Conference on Non-communicable Diseases in Montevideo from 18 to 20 October 2017, and taking note of its outcome document, which highlights non-communicable diseases as a sustainable development priority and which contributes to the preparatory process leading up to the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,

[1] General Assembly resolution 66/2, annex.
[2] General Assembly resolution 68/300.
[3] World Health Organization, document WHA66/2013/REC/1, annex 4.

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Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: our promise for dignity, prosperity and peace on a healthy planet",[4]

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which includes non-communicable disease-related targets, including reducing by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases by 2030 and ensuring prevention and treatment, as well as support for research and development for vaccines and medicines, and recalling the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[5] which noted the enormous burden that non-communicable diseases place on developed and developing countries, and that these costs are particularly challenging for developing countries,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[6]

Noting with concern that the global burden of non-communicable diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which are linked to one or more of the modifiable risk factors, notably, the four main risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, as well as air pollution, as the largest environmental risk factor contributing to non-communicable diseases, constitutes one of the major challenges for development in the twenty-first century, which undermines social and economic development throughout the world and threatens the achievement of internationally agreed development goals,

Noting that the health-related targets included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are also linked to several factors,

Noting also the progress made by the Task Force in the execution of its mandate, including joint programming missions to an increasing number of countries and global joint programmes and thematic working groups that contribute to 30 targets of 12 Sustainable Development Goals, and that its work has significant implications for national multisectoral non-communicable disease responses and development plans and policies,

Recalling the model policy for agencies of the United Nations system on preventing tobacco industry interference, which was developed in the context of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control,[7]

Noting with concern the continued shortage of resources available for the Task Force and, in particular, the global joint programmes developed by the Task Force, as well as for non-communicable disease-related task forces and mechanisms at the regional and subregional levels, which remain mostly unfunded to date, and in this regard noting ongoing relevant discussions on catalysing financing to fill the gap, including by identifying funding mechanisms, such as a multi-donor trust fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases[8] and the recommendations contained therein, including to report to the Economic and Social Council in 2019 on progress made in implementing Council resolution 2013/12;

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[4] A/72/684-E/2018/7.

[5] General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

[6] A/72/662.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2302, No. 41032.

[8] E/2018/49.

2. *Recognizes* that the requests in its resolution 2016/5 for members of the Task Force to provide support to Member States to reflect the non-communicable disease-related targets included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[9] in national development plans and policies cannot be fulfilled with the current resources;

3. *Calls upon* Member States and international development partners to provide financial or in-kind support for the work of the Task Force, and invites other stakeholders, including the private sector, as appropriate, philanthropic foundations and civil society, to also provide support in this regard;

4. *Welcomes* the financial or in-kind support provided by Member States and international development partners for the work of the Task Force;

5. *Calls upon* the Task Force and its members to continue to work together and with philanthropic foundations, civil society and the private sector, as appropriate, to identify additional resources to provide support to Member States;

6. *Encourages* the Task Force and its members, including through United Nations country teams, to intensify the provision of technical support to Member States in collaboration with other such existing task forces or similar mechanisms, at the regional and subregional levels, as appropriate, in order to achieve the non-communicable disease-related targets as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7. *Urges* national Governments, the private sector as appropriate, and bilateral and multilateral donors, including the World Bank and regional development banks, to explore financing for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases and mobilizing the provision of adequate, predictable and sustained resources for the programmatic work of the Task Force, including the four global joint programmes, in order to scale up Task Force support to Member States;

8. *Calls upon* the Task Force and its members to develop partnerships to achieve public health goals with Governments, non-governmental organizations, relevant private sector entities, academic institutions and philanthropic foundations to support the work of the Task Force at the global, regional and country levels within the mandate of the Task Force as set out in resolution 2013/12;

9. *Requests* the Task Force to further support Member States in the prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases, as well as support for research and development of vaccines and medicines and the provision of access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all, as well as strengthening regulatory systems, pursuing good supply-chain management and strengthening health systems for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

10. *Calls upon* the Task Force and its members to strengthen its capacity to provide technical and policy advice to Governments in order to implement multisectoral strategies and enhance multi-stakeholder action, including with the private sector, with a view to strengthening their contribution to the implementation of national responses to non-communicable diseases;

11. *Also calls upon* the Task Force and its members, within its mandate, to support, upon request, the capacity of Member States for improved regulatory and legal frameworks that promote favourable health outcomes for non-communicable diseases;

[9] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

12. *Encourages* members of the Task Force, as appropriate and in line with their respective mandates, to continue to develop and implement their own policies on preventing tobacco industry interference, bearing in mind the model policy for agencies of the United Nations system on preventing tobacco industry interference, in order to ensure a consistent and effective separation between the activities of the United Nations system and those of the tobacco industry;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its 2019 session on progress achieved in implementing resolution 2013/12, under the sub-item entitled "Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases" of the item entitled "Coordination, programme and other questions", following up on the decisions taken by the General Assembly at the comprehensive review in 2018 of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.

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